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Friday
September 19, 1952

Staff meeting.

This was followed by a meeting on Iran. The general feeling here is that the U. S. Government should discuss with the British Government our attitude toward disapproval of attemptson behalf of American oil companies to purchase Iranian oil in the face of the British Government's objection to such purchases. The embargo is breaking down -- something like ten companies are now engaged in dickering with the Iranian Government, and appear ready to take their chances on surmounting any legal obstacles that might be interposed by the Anglo-Iranian Oil Company.

Mrs. Catherine Guyon, from Senator Martin's office, came to see me about the plight of some American Jesuits who have been unsuccessful in obtaining visas for India. They were destined to go as teachers to one of the Jesuit missions established there about 400 years ago. We are cabling Bowles about this.

Harold Callender, in the United States on a vacation, came to see me, as did Sam Reber, whose mother has lately died.

George Perkins and I had a meeting with the Secretary to go over our proposed course of action at the Ambassadors' meeting in London next week.

The report on oil manipulations in the Middle East by U. S. and foreign oil companies made by the Federal Trade Commission is causing more and more harmful complications in our foreign policy. The Venezuelan Government has said that, in view of the gravity of its charges, it must investigate its contracts with the companies operating in Venezuela. This report will have equally, and probably more dangerous, repercussions in the Middle East.

Averell called me about the desire of Bill Draper to build a huge

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